



# The Sampler

March 27, 2014

The Sampler is a monthly e-newsletter produced by the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program.

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## **Web Highlights**

This month's featured lake website is [Northwood Lake Watershed Association](#), Northwood, NH

[Don't Fertilize the Lake](#)

[Lessons in Water Cycling: Green Infrastructure in Providence, R.I.](#)

[U.S. Senate OKs Blue-Green Algae Bill](#)

[NH Resident's Use and Value of Water](#)

## **Upcoming Events**

### **2014 NHDES Drinking Water Source Protection Conference**

Wednesday, April 30, 2014  
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Grappone Conference Center  
Concord, NH

### **NHDES Wetlands Program Rulemaking & Process Improvement Efforts**

Spring 2014 Listening Sessions  
Various Locations

### **Stormwater BMP Technology Demonstration Workshop**

UNH Stormwater Center  
Wednesday, April 23, 2014

## **2013 Biological Monitoring Summary**

The NH DES [Biomonitoring Program](#) was established in the mid-1990's in response to an EPA directive for states to develop the capacity to characterize the condition of its aquatic communities, and has focused on the development and implementation of biological condition indices for rivers and streams. The program has also collected chemical and habitat data to complete comprehensive water quality assessments of river and stream segments. This biological monitoring was typically conducted as part of either a probability-based or targeted sampling design.



Starting in 2013 with a revised Watershed Management Bureau (WMB) surface water quality monitoring strategy, biological monitoring was expanded. Biomonitoring stations were monitored for one of three primary purposes; to detect trends, create statewide probabilistic assessments or complete targeted monitoring on a rotational basis and one secondary purpose; to assist with special projects to evaluate a site for permitting or other interest. The monitoring includes approximately 27 long-term trend stations monitored annually, 30 stations sampled every 10 years to support a statewide biological probabilistic assessment and 10-15 annual targeted or synoptic stations. Special projects include as many as 10 stations per year.

In 2013, the Biomonitoring Program worked cooperatively with other WMB Staff to collect physical and chemical water quality parameters at 53 (40 Trend, 13 Synoptic) monitoring stations, one to two times per month from June through September, and biological samples from 40 (27 trend, 13 synoptic, 3 special projects) monitoring stations. The Biomonitoring Program also worked with USEPA staff to collect physical, chemical, habitat, and biological data at 14 stations as part of the 2013/2014 [National Rivers and Streams Assessment](#) (NRSA), stream algal assessments and other biological monitoring projects.

### **Saco River Conference**

Wednesday, April 23, 2014  
Leura Eastman Performing  
Arts Center  
Fryeburg Academy  
Fryeburg, ME

### **LSPA 2014 Events Calendar**

#### **Save the Date!**

#### **VLAP Annual Workshop**

Saturday, May 31, 2014  
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

### **Grants**

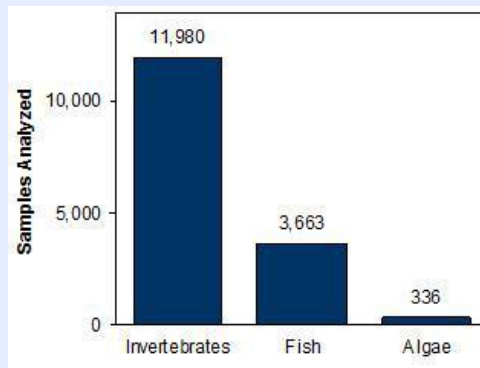
#### **NHDES Wetland Restoration Grants**

Pre-Proposals due April 28,  
2014

## **Limno Lingo**

#### **Stormwater**

**Runoff:** Precipitation that does not get absorbed by the ground. Instead it washes over land picking up pollutants such as soil, fertilizer, animal waste, petroleum products, and litter and can transport those pollutants to nearby surface waters.



**Figure 1. Biological Monitoring 2012/2013**

Specifically, biological monitoring for macroinvertebrates (collected in 2102) resulted in 138 samples from 45 stations and includes more than 12,000 discrete macroinvertebrate data points pertaining to biological conditions recorded at these locations. Biological monitoring for fish resulted in 19 samples from 20 stations (fish absent at one station) and includes 3,663 discrete data points. River and stream algal assessments resulted in 336 discrete data points from 14 stations, including quality control samples.

### **Reminder: Enter your Ice-in and Ice-out Dates!**

When will ice-out occur in 2014? Your guess is as good as ours, but don't forget to record the information somewhere! VLAP started requesting lake ice-out data in 2011 after recognizing there was no central repository for this information in New Hampshire. We currently have historical records for approximately 50 lakes and ponds throughout the state. If you have not done so already, we encourage you to [enter](#) your historical ice-out records. This form also allows you to enter lake ice-in dates, as tracking both ice-in and ice-out information allows us to calculate the total number of days with ice cover for each lake. Eventually, we hope to compile the records for all lakes and report the information. Stay tuned!

### **The Jody Connor Limnology Center Announces Citizen Science Lecture Series**

The Jody Connor Limnology Center (JCLC) is pleased to announce the development of a [Citizen Science Lecture Series](#). The series aims to provide citizen scientists with the latest information in the fields of limnology, biology, ecology, wildlife, and environmental science. In 2014, one lecture series will occur in the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. The Spring 2014 lecture is the [New Hampshire Fish and Game Reptile and Amphibian Reporting Program \(RAARP\)](#) scheduled for Wednesday, May 7th, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Fish and Game Offices, 11 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH. We hope to see you there!

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